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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q62305

Satoshi SEGAWA, et al.

RECEIVED

Appln. No.: 09/736,297

Group Art Unit: 2621

AUG 28 2002

Confirmation No.: 8432

Examiner: Unknown

Technology Center 2600

Filed: December 15, 2000

For: **STAND TYPE IMAGE SCANNER CAPABLE OF PERFORMING DROP-OUT PROCESSING**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) (substitute for PTO Form 1449) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 9-153988, published June 10, 1997.
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 6-309496, published November 4, 1994.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

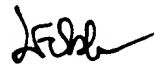
3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 10-164324, published June 19, 1998.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding Japanese Office Action dated May 28, 2002 and an English translation of the pertinent portions thereof, which cites and indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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Ref. Q62305

1. The inventions in the claims listed below in the present application could have been invented easily by an individual having a common knowledge of the field of technology containing the invention as it stood, prior to the date of application, based on inventions described in the publications listed below that were distributed in Japan or in foreign countries prior to the application, and thus they are ineligible to receive patent protection based on the stipulations of Section 2 Article 29 of the Patent Law.

Annotation (See the List of Cited References, Etc., for the Cited References, Etc.

* Claims: 1 - 9

* Cited References: 1 - 3

* Comments

Cited Reference 1 describes a device for reading in images wherein a manuscript is placed face up with a light source and an image sensor disposed there above, where said manuscript, illuminated by said light source, is read in by said image sensor. Additionally, in the image read-in device, the use of a light source that is strong in the specific wavelength bands that specify the drop-out colors to illuminate the manuscript, binarizing the reflected light using a specific threshold, and causing the images in said specific wavelength bands to drop out, is nothing more than a well-known conventional engineering practice as described, for example, in Cited Reference 2, and subtracting the image signal obtained when the light source is turned off from the image signal that is obtained when the light source is turned on is nothing more than a well-known conventional technical practice as described in, for example, Cited Reference 3, so applying these technologies to that which is described in Cited Reference 1 is nothing more than that which can be obtained easily by an individual in the industry.

Note that when creating a light source of a specific color, disposing an optical filter of a specific color on the front surface of the light source is nothing more than common practice, nor is providing an optical filter of a specific color on the front surface of the light source when creating a sensor to read in a specific color.

List of Cited References, Etc.

1. Unexamined Patent Application Publication H 9-153988
2. Unexamined Patent Application Publication H 6-309496
3. Unexamined Patent Application Publication H 10-164324